

INDIGENOUS STUDIES 407
Comparative International Indigenous Communities
Fall 2014
Wednesday 6:00-8:50

Instructor: Ramona Beatty

Office

Location:

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:45- 3:00 and you may also make an appointment to meet with me

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to give students a broad survey of the global, with particular attention paid to the Western Hemisphere, historical and contemporary effects of colonialism on Indigenous Peoples and the evolving political and social relationships between Indigenous peoples and Settler societies. The course will examine representations of Indigenous voices in the historical and contemporary discourses of colonization and contestation and the implications for Indigenous and colonial/settler relationships. It will explore the construction and political use of collective cultural identity, Indigeneity, and colonial subjectivity.

Even as virtually all nations in the world have voted in favor of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, Indigenous communities, tribes and nations continue to confront a range of issues that challenge their ability to maintain their cultures, govern themselves, and decide their futures. This course will look at those issues, and focus on how Indigenous Peoples are actively working to oppose their oppression and create sustainable futures. It will investigate how these issues are expressed in language, spiritual, cultural, intellectual, and social movements. These themes of Colonialism, Indigeneity and post- colonial Indigenous political and social movements will also further explore the relationships within and between Indigenous communities, and nation states and the International community.

Themes:

- Indigeneity-Indigenous Identities: Historical and Contemporary Depictions
- Indigenous Knowledge and Tradition
- Gender

- Land and Territory
- International Indigenous Peoples Rights and transnational organizing of social movements.
- Indigenous Movements and Coalitions against Globalization

Objectives of the Course:

- compare the history of colonialism and post colonialism of some Indigenous societies around the world.
- promote a deeper comprehension of the Indigenous and Settler relationship within the context of colonization, post-colonization and de-colonization
- demonstrate an ability to analyze and synthesize core themes and concepts presented in the course, specifically in interdisciplinary historical, political, legal, cultural and socioeconomic contexts;
- demonstrate an awareness of the key overarching themes of the course and how these themes work together to explain the issues faced by Indigenous peoples
- increase understanding of the concepts of Indigenous and post and de-colonial discourse;
- increase knowledge of the legacy of the colonial relationship between Indigenous and Settler societies;
- develop a fuller understanding of International Indigenous and Human rights; and to further the discussion of post-colonial Indigenous and decolonizing theories.

Textbooks and Readings:

There are no required texts for this course. All reading will be made available in PDF form on D2L or is available on-line.

Assignments and Evaluation

Seminars: 30%

After the second class meeting, students will be responsible for presenting the weekly theme through assigned readings (Instructor and Student) and raising questions for debate. Presentation of these readings entails providing concise summaries of each author's main arguments, making comparisons among the authors, and drawing connections between the week's readings and those of previous weeks. The student leader must circulate copies of their reading notes to the rest of the class and provide a handout of their points of discussion.

Research Project and Presentation: 30% November 20 and 27

These projects will be presented to the class during the last two class periods. You will complete a substantial research project for this course. The project will be on a topic of your choice related to indigenous cultural issues. The project should demonstrate

effective use of course concepts and theories to work towards a concise and compelling thesis. This assignment is an 'open' project, wherein the student gets to decide the 'form' of the project. Whether it is an essay, scrapbook, dance piece, artwork, sculpture, and the options are endless. The project must demonstrate learning and comprehension of the course and the key themes/objectives within the course, also the project must use course data and personal insight in regards to the meaning of the project and its relationship with the course. Please note: All projects that are composed outside of a computer format, for example: artwork; the student must photograph or use some other digital means to capture the project which must be presented in a power point presentation or other related software.

Reflective Writing: 30% -October15 and November 26

You will complete 2 reflection essays related to course readings and lecture concepts. The essays will consist of 3-5 typed pages in paragraph form and will allow for reflection and application of class concepts. The paper should represent an issue of the student's choice from the course reading, films, and discussion in the preceding weeks. The papers should refer to course readings, films and discussion where relevant, and should demonstrate some analytical thought on the part of the author. In other words, take an issue and discuss it in depth; do not simply write up a summary of what we read or said in class. This is not intended to be a research paper, but you may use additional sources if you wish. The sources you use should be properly cited. Although these are short papers, please do not regard them as informal. They should have proper grammar and essay structure, including an introduction, discussion/argument and conclusion. A course paper guide and grading rubric will be provided.

Participation: 10%:

Attendance, class discussion and active participation in group learning. This course will be highly interactive and will include various opportunities for active engagement during each class session, including organized discussions, debates, small group work, etc. Your participation will be graded based on the consistency and thoughtfulness of your contributions, and on your alert and respectful interaction with others in the class.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Please hand in your essays directly to your instructor. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available in SS102. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed from the drop box the following morning and stamped with the CURRENT day's date, then placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No

Policy for Late Assignments: Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation Policy

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Student Accessibility Services (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly Points

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact them if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman, please see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at picarts@ucalgary.ca.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Program Information Centre (SS 102) at 403-220-3580 or artsads@ucalgary.ca.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.